

U N C L A S S I F I E D

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - 5 October 1979

SECTION II

PRESS HIGHLIGHTS

UNITED STATES

1. US/SALT: Senate majority leader Robert Byrd warned yesterday that he would not bring SALT II up for a vote until the Carter Administration had given the Senate a preview of its future military spending. The majority whip, Alan Cranston, also called for an early submission of White House defense spending plans and said he had received "assurances" from the Administration that this would be done. A Pentagon official, however, said that Defense Secretary Brown had told Cranston only that "perhaps" it would be possible to give the Senate an abbreviated preview of the 1981 military budget and the revised five-year defense program. (NYT)

In a report to be issued today, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence states that the US has impressive ability to monitor many facets of Soviet military development. The report draws no firm conclusion, however, as to the verifiability of the SALT II provisions. It leaves to each senator the personal responsibility of deciding whether the US is able to verify Soviet compliance with the treaty. (NYT)

2. US/ISRAEL/INDONESIA: The US is fronting an arms deal in which Israel, without being publicly identified as the source, is selling Indonesia used warplanes obtained from the US. Pentagon officials confirmed that Israel is shipping Indonesia 16 A-4 fighter-bombers in the first such third-country sale of US warplanes. (Post)
3. US/USSR/EUROPE: A Kremlin official warned again that deployment in Western Europe of US nuclear missiles targetted against the USSR could upset the military balance in the East-West theater and draw a tough Soviet countermove. The official implied that the Soviets would move quietly to expand their own nuclear striking forces in response. (Post)
4. US: President Carter designated McGeorge Bundy to be chairman of the General Advisory Committee of the Arms Control Disarmament Agency. Bundy has been a member of the committee since last year. (UPI)

MIDDLE EAST

5. SAUDI ARABIA/PALESTINE/US: Saudi Arabia has repeatedly told the Carter Administration that it supports self-determination for the Palestinians, including their right to demand an independent state, Saudi Foreign

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